THE HONORABLE YVONNE WILLIAMS ASSOCIATE JUDGE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Yvonne M. Williams was nominated by President Barack Obama in February 2011 and confirmed by the United States Senate in August 2011.

Judge Williams was born in Detroit, Michigan and raised in Chicago, Illinois, where she graduated from Whitney M. Young Magnet High School. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from the University of California at Berkeley and her Juris Doctor from Northeastern University School of Law.

Upon graduation from law school, Judge Williams received a National Association of Public Interest Law (now Equal Justice Works) Fellowship to work at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund ("LDF"). As an attorney at LDF, Judge Williams represented plaintiffs in federal individual and class action employment discrimination cases throughout the country.

In October 1999, Judge Williams began as a staff attorney in the Trial Division of the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia ("PDS") where she represented indigent clients charged with criminal offenses in D.C. Superior Court. Judge Williams also worked in the PDS Appellate Division, where she wrote appellate briefs and argued several cases before the District of Columbia Court of Appeals.

In 2005, Judge Williams joined Miller & Chevalier Chartered as a Senior Associate. There, she conducted and managed internal investigations, in both criminal and civil contexts, for mid-size and multi-national corporations and defended corporations against claims of employment discrimination, and individuals in matters involving allegations of defamation, government contracting fraud, insider trading, conspiracy, and other fraud-related allegations.

In 2007, Judge Williams went to work for Wilson, Sonsini, Goodrich & Rosati, where she managed and conducted internal investigations for multi-national corporations. In late 2008, Judge Williams returned to Miller & Chevalier Chartered as Counsel, and remained there until her appointment to the bench. In her final years there, she litigated employment matters before federal and state courts as well as administrative agencies.

While in private practice, Judge Williams was very active in the Washington, D.C. legal community. She was a member of the Board of Directors of the Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia, a member of the Judicial Evaluation Committee for the D.C. Bar, and a member of the Nominating Committee of the Labor and Employment Law Section of the D.C. Bar. Judge Williams also served as President of the Board of Directors for D.C. Law Students in Court ("LSIC"), a non-profit organization in which law students, under the supervision of LSIC staff attorneys, provide legal representation to indigent D.C. residents with landlord-tenant and criminal cases pending in D.C. Superior Court. For her work as a lawyer and her commitment to strengthening the legal profession, in July 2011, Judge Williams was honored by the National Bar Association as one of the nation's "Top 40 Lawyers Under 40."

Since joining the Court, Judge Williams has served on several committees including the Judicial Education Committee, the Criminal Justice Act Panel Committee, and the Domestic Relations and Juvenile Subcommittees. She has served in the Criminal and Family Divisions of the Court. She also serves as the Chair of the Commission on the Selection and Tenure of Administrative Law Judges at the Office of Administrative Hearings.